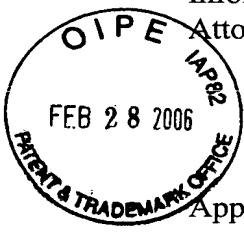


JPM

Application No. 10/540,742

Information Disclosure Statement Dated February 24, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 0388-051896



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	:	10/540,742 ✓	Confirmation No. 2393
Applicants	:	Shinichi KAWABATA et al.	
Filed	:	June 24, 2005	
Title	:	QUALITY EVALUATION APPARATUS FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES	
Group Art Unit	:	2877	
Examiner	:	Not Yet Assigned	
Customer No.	:	28289	

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, the Applicants hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement together with a completed Form PTO/SB/08A.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 24, 2006.

Kay E. Yetter

(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

02/24/2006

Signature

Date

Application No. 10/540,742
Information Disclosure Statement Dated February 24, 2006
Attorney Docket No. 0388-051896

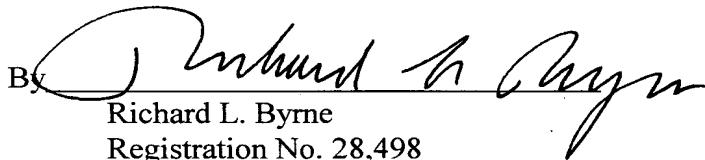
This application is the United States national phase of PCT publication WO 2004/059300 and Application No. PCT/JP2003/016536. The International Search Report (ISR) dated April 20, 2004, and International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER) of February 18, 2005 for the underlying PCT application identify the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A, with the exception of the final three Japanese references. In addition, Japanese reference JP 63-81226 is equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 4,828,387, which is also cited on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. Japanese reference JP 2002-090301 is cited in the instant specification and is relevant for the reasons discussed therein. The final two references may be of interest. The references cited in the ISR and IPER are relevant for the reasons stated therein. An English language translation of the IPER mailed by the IB on November 10, 2005 is also enclosed, along with English translations of the Japanese references cited therein.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fee is due for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, which is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

The Commissioner for Patents, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One (1) original and one (1) copy of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2001. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/540,742
Sheet	1	Of	1	Filing Date	June 24, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Shinichi Kawataba
				Group Art Unit	2877
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	0388-051896

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ²			
		4,828,387		Sawyers et al.	05-09-1989	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵		
		JP 2002-107294	A	Kubota Corp.	04-10-2002	English Trans Only
		JP 2002-077522	A	Casio Comput Co. Ltd.	03-15-2002	English Trans Only
		JP 10-62337	A	Sumitomo Metal Mining	03-06-1998	English Trans Only
		JP 63-81226	A	Ares-Serono R&D	04-12-1998	US 4,828,387 equiv.
		JP 2000-162047	A	Komatsu Ltd.	06-16-2000	English Trans Only
		JP 2002-181701	A	Saika Technological Institute Foundation	06-26-2002	English Trans Only
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		JP 08-005550		Kubota Corp.	01-12-1996	English Trans Attached
		JP 05-045212		Juki Corp.	02-23-1993	English Trans Attached

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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